

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-11, 13-35, 40-46 and 48-50 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 16, 17, 30, 35 and 40 are the independent claims. Claims 1-11, 13-15, 18, 23-35, 40-46 and 48-50 are allowed. Claims 16, 17 and 19-22 are rejected as noted below.

Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 16, 17 and 19-22 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 5, 8-11 and 13 of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,614,953.

In response to the nonstatutory double patenting rejection, Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c). The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is obviated by submission of the enclosed terminal disclaimer and should be withdrawn.

Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 16, 17 and 19-20 and 22 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 5, 7 and 11 of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,631,222.

In response to the nonstatutory double patenting rejection, Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c).). The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is obviated by submission of the enclosed terminal disclaimer and should be withdrawn.

Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 16, 17 and 19-22 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 6 and 9-14 of commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,614,080. The undersigned notes that this is an erroneous Patent Number and it is believed that the correct prior Patent Number is 7,469,080, as noted by the Examiner on form PTO-892, which accompanied the Office Action mailed April 20, 2009.

In response to the nonstatutory double patenting rejection, Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer under 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c). The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is obviated by submission of the enclosed terminal disclaimer and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and early passage of this case to issue is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of the application, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicants' attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Fees

The Office is authorized to charge the fees under 1.20(d) (\$70 for each of three (3) Terminal Disclaimers, \$210 in total). In addition, any deficiencies may be charged to the undersigned attorney's deposit account No. 50-1047.

Respectfully submitted,

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